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GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

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SUPPLEMENT

(SUPLEMENTO)

GOVERNMENT OF GOA, DAMAN AND DIU

Planning and Development Department

Development Department

Notification

CDP/VPT/935/65

In exercise of powers vested in him under Section 65, sub-sections (1) and (2), clause (h) of the Goa, Daman and Diu Village Panchayats Regulation, 1962, read with Section 34 of the said Regulation the Lt. Governor of Goa, Daman and Diu is pleased to make the following Rules:—

1. Short title. — These rules may be called «The Goa, Daman and Diu Village Panchayats (Village Volunteer Force) Rules, 1965.

2. Definitions. — In these rules unless the context otherwise requires:—

- a) «Regulation» means the Goa, Daman and Diu Village Panchayats Regulation, 1962.
- b) «Director of Panchayats» means the Development Commissioner or any other officer who is entrusted by the Government with the supervision and control of the Village Panchayats in the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu.
- c) «Member» means a member of the Village Volunteer Force.
- d) «Village» means an area under the jurisdiction of a Village Panchayat.
- e) «Force» means Village Volunteer Force.
- f) The words, terms and definitions not defined in these rules shall have the same meaning assigned to them in the Regulation.

3. Registers to be prepared in form no. 1. — Every Village Panchayat shall prepare a register (in Form No. 1) of all the able bodied males residing in the village who are between the ages of 21 and 40 and who are willing to join the Force.

4. Appointment of Dalpati, Up-Dalpati and qualifications thereof. — (1) Subject to the approval of the Director of Panchayats, every Village Panchayat shall appoint from among the registered volunteers a Dalpati (Commander) and a Up-Dalpati (Dy. Commander) of the Force.

(2) In order to be eligible to the post of a Dalpati or Up-Dalpati, a member of the Village Volunteer Force, shall require:—

- a) to be above 21 and below 40 years of age on the date of appointment;
- b) to possess good conduct;
- c) to be physically able to face hardships in outdoor works;
- d) to possess a height of 5 ft. and a chest not less than 32 inches;
- e) to be able to read and write in regional language.

(3) In the appointment of Dalpati and Up-Dalpati preference shall be given to persons who have served in Army or Police, but who have not been removed from any of these forces on an adverse report.

5. Training of the Dalpati and Up-Dalpati. — (1) On appointment, the Dalpati and Up-Dalpati shall undergo a prescribed training course as and when the Government may by order determine.

(2) The Dalpati and Up-Dalpati, shall after a successful completion of the prescribed training, be entitled to a certificate in Form No. 2.

(3) Expenditure on the training of Dalpatis and Up-Dalpatis shall be borne by the Government.

6. **Members of Force to take oath.** — (1) Every member of the Village Volunteer Force including the Dalpati and Up-Dalpati shall take an oath in Form 3 and on taking such oath shall be entitled to an identity card which shall bear the signature of the member, Sarpanch and the Director of Panchayats as well as the seal of the Village Panchayat to which the Village Volunteer Force belongs, along with the full name and a photograph of the member.

(2) The cost of identity cards under sub-rule (1) shall be borne by the Government.

7. **Dalpati, to impart training to members.** — (1) Every Dalpati shall, after obtaining a certificate in Form No. 2 (vide Rule 5 sub-rule 2) shall with the assistance of Up-Dalpati and under the overall direction of the Panchayat draw up a scheme to impart training to all the members of the Village Volunteer Force in his Village in the following subjects:

- a) Physical exercise and drill;
- b) Fire and Flood fighting;
- c) Watch and ward;
- d) Fighting dacoits and thieves;
- e) Construction and protection of bunds;
- f) First Aid;
- g) Promotion of mutual understanding and co-operation among various communities within the village;
- h) Measures to prevent the spread of cholera, small-pox, plague, typhoid, malaria and other epidemics.

(2) The Government shall prescribe a curriculum for training in subjects mentioned in sub-rule (1) and appoint a suitable officer or officers to impart and guide such training.

(3) The training shall be of 3 months' duration, at the rate of 2 hours per day, and according to a time-table drawn by the Dalpati or, his absence, by Up-Dalpati, and approved by the Panchayat.

(4) It shall be left to the discretion of the Panchayat to fix the time, number of hours per day and days of the week on which the training course should be held in such a way as to make up the total of 180 hours required under sub-rule 3.

(5) Every member of the Village Volunteer Force who holds a certificate in Form No. 2 (see Rule 8) shall participate in the prescribed parade at least once a week. The parade may be held jointly by all the members of the Force or in teams, each team being headed by a member appointed for the purpose by the Dalpati or, in his absence, by the Up-Dalpati, in consultation with the Panchayat.

8. **Right to certificate by member.** — Every member of the Village Volunteer Force shall, on the successful completion of training, be entitled to a certificate in Form No. 2.

9. **Uniform.** — (1) During the training or while on duty all the members of the Village Volunteer Force shall wear an uniform prescribed by the Government.

(2) Pending the issue of an uniform under sub-rule (1) or in case it is not possible for a member to wear the uniform for justifiable reasons, the members of the Force may wear a badge which shall be in such form as may be prescribed by the Director of Panchayats.

(3) No uniform or badge other than the one prescribed under this Rule shall be worn by any member of the Village Volunteer Force either during the training or while on duty.

10. **Division of Force and appointment of Varg-pati.** — (1) The Dalpati may, for the convenience of work, divide the Village Volunteer Force into various teams. Each such team shall be headed by a member appointed under sub-rule 5 of Rule 7. The member heading a team shall be designated Varg-pati.

(2) The teams formed under sub-rule (1) shall be named:

- a) Fire and Flood fighting team;
- b) Watch and ward team;
- c) Law and Order team;
- d) First Aid Team;
- e) Such other teams as the Dalpati may, subject to the approval of the Panchayat, from time to time decide to establish.

11. **List of members to be maintained in Form no. 1.** — The Dalpati or, in his absence, the Up-Dalpati shall be responsible for maintaining a list of the members of Village Volunteer Force in Form no. 1, giving therein all the information required under each column against the name of each one of them, up to date.

12. **Duties of members.** — (1) It shall be the duty of every member of the Force to promptly answer to the call of the Panchayat in any emergency in the village and failure to do so, without sufficient justification, shall be considered a violation of these rules and a grave breach of trust.

(2) Every Village Panchayat shall have in its office an emergency bell the ringing of which shall mean a call to the members of the Village Volunteer Force under sub-rule (1).

13. **Members holding certificate to attend the annual rally.** — (1) Every member of the Village Volunteer Force holding a certificate under Rule 8 shall, if so required, report to duty three days in a month and attend the annual Village Volunteer Force rally.

(2) The Dalpati or, in his absence, the Up-Dalpati shall prepare a duty-roaster for the members of the Village Volunteer Force taking into account the convenience of each one of them and every member of the Force shall abide by the roaster so prepared.

(3) Normally, the members of the Village Volunteer Force shall perform their duties within their own Village. They may, however, be called upon to offer their services to a neighbouring village in case of any emergency.

14. **Police officer or authorized officer to enlist services of the Force.** — (1) Every Police Officer or any other authorized Officer of the Government shall be entitled to enlist if necessary, the services of the Village Volunteer Force in a village, for maintaining law and order, through the Sarpanch or, in his absence, through the Dalpati or, in the absence of both, through any member of the Village Panchayat.

(2) The Sarpanch or, in his absence the Dy. Sarpanch or, in the absence of both, any member of the Village Panchayat may call for the services of the Village Volunteer Force by an oral order, at any

time during the day or night if in his opinion an emergency has arisen in the village.

15. Duty of the member to maintain law and order. — (1) It shall be the duty of every member of the Village Volunteer Force to cooperate in maintaining law and order within the village, to instil a sense of discipline and self-dependence in the residents of the village as also to develop in them a sense of responsibility towards the village community and the country as a whole.

(2) Subject to the approval of the Panchayat, the Village Volunteer Force shall perform all or any one of the following duties:

- a) to prevent the commission of an offence of crime.
- b) to protect life and property;
- c) to impose law and order;
- d) to report about rumours which are likely to result in breach of peace and to prevent the spread of such rumours;
- e) to prevent and check fire, famine, floods and epidemics;
- f) to provide first-aid and assistance in transporting the sick and wounded to a hospital;
- g) to maintain order in fairs, markets and public meetings held in the village;
- h) to ensure the compliance of notices, summons and directives of the Panchayat.
- i) to assist in the collection of statistics;
- j) to perform such duties as are assigned from time to time to the Village Volunteer Force by the Panchayat or the Government.

Provided that the duties mentioned at a), b), c) and g) shall be performed under the command of a Police Officer not below the rank of a Head Constable.

16. **Dalpati to take orders from the Panchayat.** — (1) Unless otherwise provided in these Rules, the Dalpati shall take orders from the Panchayat and all other members of the Village Volunteer Force shall act under the orders of the Dalpati.

(2) Every member of the Village Volunteer Force shall promptly carry out the instructions of his superiors or of any Police Officer or any other authorised Government Officer under whom his services might have, for the time being been placed under Rule 14.

17. **Member not liable for damages.** — No member of the Force shall be held liable for damages on account of any lawful act done by him in the bona-fide discharge of his duties as a member of such force.

18. **Penalty in certain cases to members.** — (1) Any member of the Village Volunteer Force who while on duty:

- a) disobeys or threatens his superior or uses abusive language against him, or
- b) refuses to comply with the orders given by his superior, under these rules, or
- c) ignores the directives given by his Varg-pati, or
- d) is found in a drunken state, or
- e) being a Dalpati, Up-Dalpati or Varg-pati uses abusive language, behaves rudely or adopts an arrogant attitude towards the members of the Village Volunteer Force working under him, or

f) transgresses his powers as a member of the Village Volunteer Force while performing the duties specified in Rule 16(2), or

(2) without justification, does not attend punctually the parade or fails to report to duty whenever required, or resigns from the membership in course of performance of his duties;

(3) without due reason, does not complete the prescribed training;

(4) uses force against any person placed under his protection or in his custody;

(5) unlawfully sells or abets in the sale of any property belonging to the Panchayat or Government, which might have been entrusted to his care;

(6) intentionally causes damage to the Government or Panchayat property or due to carelessness loses or destroys such property;

(7) knowingly gives false or incorrect information in respect of the number of persons or in respect of the amount of money, clothes, luggage or any such property entrusted to his care;

(8) intentionally gives incorrect report regarding the compliance of duties assigned to him;

(9) raises against an individual accusations which he knows or believes to be untrue;

(10) does not take proper care of the uniform, badge and such other material allotted to him;

(11) behaves arrogantly with the public in the course of the performance of his duties.

Shall on the Panchayat finding the charges as proved, be liable to pay to the Panchayat a fine not exceeding Rs. 50/-.

19. **Other penalties to members.** — Without prejudice to any action taken under Rule 19 a member of the Village Volunteer Force found to be negligent in his duties may be liable to —

- (i) censure,
- (ii) adverse remarks,
- (iii) labour duty,
- (iv) dismissal from the membership.

Provided that the Dalpati shall be competent to take action on (i) and (ii) above in consultation with the respective Varg-pati and action on (iii) and (iv) shall be within the competence of the Panchayat.

20. **Commendation certificate.** — (1) (a) The Director of Panchayats may award on behalf of the Government a commendation certificate to the Dalpati or any other member of the Village Volunteer Force for distinguished services.

(b) The award of the certificate mentioned in (a) above shall be recorded in the register maintained in the Form No. 1 against the name of the recipient and shall be taken into account while considering the promotion of the member to a higher post in the Force.

(2) (a) The Director of Panchayats may award a prize the value of which shall not exceed Rs. 250 to any member of the Village Volunteer Force for distinguished service, on the recommendation of the Panchayat or the Police Officer or any other authorised officer of the Government under whom the member might have rendered such service.

The Government may raise the value of the prize above Rs. 250 in case the service rendered by a member is of an extraordinary character.

(b) The prize mentioned in (a) above may be in cash or in kind.

(c) The decision of the Director of Panchayats on the question of awarding commendation certificates and prizes under this Rule, shall be final.

(3) The Deputy/Assistant Director of Panchayats in consultation with the officer in charge of the organisation of the Village Volunteer Force, shall submit to the Director of Panchayats a proposal for awarding a commendation certificate or a prize under this Rule, mentioning therein (i) the reasons for which award (ii) the nature of the award-commendation certificate or prize in cash or kind and (iii) the value of the proposed prize.

(4) (a) The Director of Panchayats on receiving such a proposal, shall decide about such nature and amount of prize as he deems fit.

(b) The prize shall be awarded to the member concerned in a public function organised for the purpose within one year of the sanction of such prize.

(5) The award of prize or commendation certificate shall be recorded in the service-book of the concerned member.

(6) No member of Village Volunteer Force shall receive in his individual capacity, any gift, either in cash or in kind, from the public. The Dalpati or, in his absence, the Up-Dalpati may, however, receive on behalf of the Village Volunteer Force any gift, in cash or in kind, presented by any individual or institution in recognition of the services rendered by the Force.

21. **Termination of membership on grounds of age and physical unfitness.** — (1) A member, on crossing the age of 40 years, shall cease to be a member of the Village Volunteer Force.

Provided that he may cease to be a member before crossing the age of 40 years, if he is found to be physically unfit or resigns from the membership for reasons acceptable to the Panchayat.

(2) Every person who ceases to be a member of the Village Volunteer Force shall be given a certificate in Form No. 4.

(3) On ceasing to be a member of the Village Volunteer Force, the person concerned shall return to the Dalpati his identity card as well as the uniform or badge and such other material as might have been allotted to him for being a member of the Village Volunteer Force.

22. **Prize to member giving warning of fire accident.** — (1) The Sarpanch may award a cash prize to any member of the Village Volunteer Force who might have given a timely and true warning about a fire accident, suspected dacoity or rendered valuable service in an emergency.

(2) The prize under sub-rule (1) shall be awarded on the recommendation of the Dalpati.

23. **Expenditure of Force to be borne by Panchayat.** — Unless otherwise provided in these Rules, all expenditure on the Village Volunteer Force shall be borne by the Panchayat from its own funds and from the grants given by the Government for the Force.

24. **Director of Panchayats to control etc. of Force.** — The Director of Panchayats shall control,

direct and supervise the working of the Village Volunteer Force with the cooperation of the Senior Superintendent of Police or such other officer whom the Government may appoint from time to time.

25. **Authorized Officer or Police Officer to inspect the Force.** — Any authorized executive gazetted officer or any police officer may inspect the Village Volunteer Force. On every such inspection he shall submit, through proper channel, a report to the Director of Panchayats and endorse a copy of such report to the Sarpanch of the concerned Village Panchayat.

26. **Removal of difficulties.** — If any difficulty arises in giving effect to these Rules or in the proper functioning of the Village Volunteer Force, the Director of Panchayats may, by order, make such provision as may appear to him to be necessary or expedient for removing such difficulty.

By order and in the name of the Administrator of Goa, Daman and Diu.

A. F. Couto, Development Commissioner.

Panjim, 2nd September, 1965.

FORM No. 1

(See Rule 3)

Village Volunteer Force

..... Village Panchayat Block District

| Serial No. | Name of the Volunteer | Father's Name | Address | Age | Profession | Whether trained or not | Prize of fire, if any | Date of admission | Date of Relief | Sarpanch's signature | Remarks |
|------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------|-----|------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

FORM No. 2

(See Rule 5(2) and 9)

This is to certify that Shri ... son of Shri ... residing at ... has successfully completed the training prescribed for a Dalpati/Up-Dalpati/Member of the Village Volunteer Force.

Signature of the Sarpanch

Signature of the Officer in charge of Training

FORM No. 3

(See Rule 6)

I, ... (name of the member) do solemnly affirm that I will duly and faithfully serve the ... (name of the Village Panchayat) and the constitutionally established Government of my country, and will to the best of my ability perform such duties as may be assigned to me, as a member of the Village Volunteer Force, without fear or favour or affection or ill-will.

Signature of the member

FORM No. 4

[See Rule 21(2)]

It is hereby certified that Shri ... (name of the member of the Village Volunteer Force) son of ... (Father's name) ... (address) ... registered under no. ... in the Village Volunteer Force of ... Village Panchayat, has been relieved of the membership of the said Village Volunteer Force on ... (date) because ... (reasons).

Seal of the Panchayat

Signature of the Sarpanch

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